

California Legislature

JAN 15 1971

Assembly General Research Committee

ROOM 436, STATE CAPITOL

January 5, 1971

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Joshua:

The enclosed is the material you requested on the Commission on Manpower, Automation and Technology.

I was interested to learn that you have joined the Board of Trustees of the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.. I very much agree that there is need for much greater legislative effort to define standards in the environmental field. I think the statutory approach is much sounder than having the courts make decisions on a case by case basis in those areas where the legislative body has failed to act.

I am impressed with the need for a new cost accounting as a basis for assessing the true environmental impact of proposed public and private actions.

Now that we have ASTAC organized, I hope we can keep it moving during this period of legislative transition. I view it as the beginning of an effort to institutionalize a system for involving academic and other experts in the policy problems of state government.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,



Albert J. Lipson
Chief Consultant
to the Assembly

AJL:lhs
Enclosure

LIPSON, ALBERT